

Minutes  
CRIMINAL JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP  
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING  
August 20, 2008

**Board Members Present:** Chairperson Ann McKown, District Court Judge; Secretary Robin Odom, NC Department of Labor; John Lee, Community Corrections; David Saacks, District Attorney; Marcia Owen, Victim Services; Carolyn Titus, Deputy County Manager; Kenneth Titus, Superior Court Judge; Gary Thompson, Community Based Corrections Program; Deborah Schwartz, Member At Large; Gayle Harris, Public Health; Lao Rubert, Member At Large

**Board Members Absent:** Vice Chairman Wes Crabtree, Office of the Sheriff; Ellen Holliman, Mental Health; Fredericka Carver, Member At Large; Lafonda General, Member At Large; Antoinette Hilliard, Public Defender's Office; DeWarren Langley, Member At Large; Sadie Alger, Substance Abuse; Michael Page, Durham County Commissioner; Alan Goldstein, Criminal Defense Attorney;

**Staff:** Gudrun Parmer, Jo Iverson, Robin Heath, and Jonie Coss

**Guests:** Conrad Strader, Community Corrections Division II; Dianne Smith, TASC; Ann Oshel, Durham's Adult System of Care, Rob Robinson, The Durham Center; Craig Brown, Retired District Court Judge; Ms. Lively, TROSA; Joe Liberatos, Department of Community Corrections

**Introductions:** Chairperson Ann McKown welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. Members and guests introduced themselves.

**Minutes:** May 21, 2008 minutes were presented for approval. Minutes approved without corrections.

**CJPP Continuation Funding Update:** Gudrun announced she received a letter from the DOC approving the CJPP continuation funding for \$182,188.00. She indicated this amount included an increase of \$4,989.00. She stated the additional amount came from allocation funds from the state and were divided among the counties using the new formula. She stated an amended budget would need to be completed and the additional funding would go to personnel.

**Program Update:** Jo Iverson presented CJRC FY 07/08 year end numbers, along with a comparison report to FY 06/07. She stated CJRC served just about the same number of people as the previous fiscal year. She added overall completion rate increased to 39% versus 35% from the previous year. She added CJRC served fewer clients for DRC but the completion rate increased to 32% up from 26% the previous year. She noted the large percentage of clients who were terminated; however, many were transferred to other programs for additional treatment such as STARR or the DART program. She stated the Reentry Program had a 76% increase in new admissions from the previous year, but the completion rate decreased from 47% to 41%. Jo summarized her report by briefly going over the final numbers for the Second Chance Program and Substance Abuse Treatment Services.

Gudrun initiated discussion from the board concerning the DRC and Reentry Programs. Gudrun stated she was concerned because half of the CJPP clients were Reentry clients, meaning more post release cases were coming in than DRC cases. She stated that because of the low numbers

in DRC, DCC removed one of the assigned DRC probation officers. She mentioned this should only be a temporary situation and when the DRC numbers increase, the position should come back. Mr. Lee stated there would be an emphasis on DRC. He acknowledged that had not been the immediate focus due to the vacancies and reorganization within Durham's Community Corrections. He knew that area needed attention and affirmed it would be. Gudrun added the current officers at CJRC were also carrying other cases in addition to CJPP cases.

Gudrun informed the board that the assigned substance abuse counselor for DRC and Reentry cases Larry McGill had transferred to the STARR program. She stated this position was currently open.

Gudrun advised the board that 98.9% of last year's CJPP grant had been spent and both reallocation grants were 100% expended.

She pointed out that overall completion numbers for CJRC were up and she believed it was due to substance abuse treatment's new approach.

She stated the IT department had almost finished the new Client Information Management System, with just a few technical issues that needed some attention. She mentioned the reports generator still needed to be completed.

Project Restore started a new cycle on August 11th and would end on Oct 31st. She stated a very nice graduation took place for the last class. She stated she received a letter from the City of Durham announcing they would provide another \$35,000.00 for one more cycle which was due to start in the spring of 2009.

She announced the Jail Reentry Program 'Transitions' was to end in December; however, the Sheriff Department received additional JAG funding and would fund the program through September 2009.

Gudrun spoke about the federal Comprehensive Anti Gang Initiative grant that Raleigh and Durham were sharing. A grant application was submitted to the Governor's Crime Commission with Durham County as the fiscal agent and the award letter was received in July. Gudrun briefly explained the purpose of the grant and Durham County would receive \$192,875.00 (over three years) for Gang Reentry. She stated CJRC had been recruiting for a case manager. Gudrun explained the funding would be applied to clients needs and hoped 50 people would be served over the three-year period. Robin Heath interjected five people were currently being served.

The Board of County Commissioners approved two new positions in this year's budget, one for planning and evaluation, and the other to expand CJRC's employment and reentry services effective October 2008. She mentioned an additional laborer position was also included in the budget, which would work as a maintenance technician in the General Services Department. She added this position would be available to graduates from Project Restore.

**Update from Subcommittees:** Deborah Schwartz presented her update for the **Youthful Offender subcommittee**; she stated the committee was working very closely with Amy Elliott and they had been meeting with her monthly. Deborah briefly explained the HIPP Program, (Helping Increase the Peace Project) and the Restorative Justice Program; she stated both have the potential to make a difference. She stated their goal was to start with a couple of schools and a couple of programs; however, within the next year or so the program would expand out to the County and move to other schools. She stated the committee was looking forward to some great things with these two programs.

**Offender Employment subcommittee** – Robin Heath reported they had been meeting several months now and they were focusing on creating an OJT (On the job training) through the Department of Labor. She stated they were working with Workforce Development to find money that could help employees gain valuable training while they are working. She stated they are trying

to identify employers to run a pilot to see if all the pieces were connected. She hoped this would end up being a good tool not just for CJRC clients but also open up to other agencies.

**Substance Abuse Treatment subcommittee** – Jo Iverson reported they have met each month and were focusing on the substance abuse treatment program at CJRC. They had discussed how to improve services and increase completion rates. She mentioned the group met just last week and discussed data; however she did not have time to put that information in a report for this meeting, she stated she would have a report at the next board meeting. One of the items she was able to put together was the completion rate; she briefly summarized her report and pointed out a few comparisons on the phase changes in the report and the difference in treatment level. Jo encouraged board members to attend the next meeting.

**Community Based Corrections Plan Update**– Gudrun stated that Craig Brown was writing an update to the last plan update. He had submitted his first draft to the subcommittee for review. She stated the committee identified several topics that would be part of the plan update, one being mentally ill offenders. Gudrun stated because of this meeting a lot of discussion was taking place and Ann Oshel had organized a meeting to bring service providers and people from the criminal justice system to talk about services currently in place within the community that served dual diagnosed clients. Gudrun mentioned they were also looking at special programs, such as domestic violence, and sex offender treatment. Other discussions in the meeting had been training and the current state of probation. Gudrun invited members to join the subcommittee if interested.

**Adult System of Care:** Ann Oshel provided a presentation on Durham's Adult System of Care. She explained the Care Review was a process where someone could discuss their needs and wishes with a group of people from the community, known as the Care Review Team. The Care Review Team represented different agencies and organizations within the community ranging from physical health, housing, mental health, substance abuse, churches, employment, social services, and public safety. She summarized her handout by reviewing the Core Values and Principles of Adult System of Care. She recognized Durham's effort was driven by the desire to provide seamless access to services, quality improvement, outcome-based measurements, knowledge, and treatment promoting a recovery-oriented community for everyone in need of support. She stated three focus areas were Homeless Services, Crisis Services, and Criminal Justice Services. Ann ended her presentation by summarizing the outcomes of Adult System of Care. She stated they were learning a lot about the system and the good thing about this new approach was that things are happening and moving along. She mentioned an initiative called 'Welcome Basket' and invited the board to participate; the baskets were for people who were once homeless, but were now moving into their own place. Ann McKown extended the board's appreciation for her presentation.

**Division of Community Corrections:** John Lee provided an update on DCC. He informed the board reorganization had taken place, including two new units and two new supervisors. He stated vacancies were still an issue, currently there were eight vacancies, and 11 new hires were in training. He added the groundwork was there and it continued to be a work in progress. He mentioned the time it would take to get things in place and new staff trained. In addition, he offered to bring more information to the next board meeting, along with information from the NIC report. Gudrun announced the report was on WRAL's website for those who were interested in reading it.

**Appointment of Nomination Committee:** Ann McKown requested that Carolyn Titus chair the nomination committee and Lao Rubert agreed to be part of the committee. Ann asked for one more

volunteer to be on the committee. She stated there would be only one meeting and that it would last approximately one hour. Debbie Schwartz agreed to assist.

Chairperson Ann McKown extended her appreciation for the members' attendance and announced the next meeting of the CJPP Advisory Board would be Wednesday, November 19, 2008.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30pm.